

SECRET TELEPOUCH

DISP NO - EGNA-35113
FILE NO - []
DATE - 20 SEPTEMBER 1967
INDEXING - NONE
MICROFILM - NO
TO - CHIEF, EUR - ATTENTION- []
INFO - CHIEF OF BASE, MUNICH - ATTENTION- []
FROM - CHIEF OF STATION, GERMANY
SUBJECT - CATUSK UTILITY SUCCESSION
ACTION - NONE
REFS - A. EGNW-6610
B. MUNICH 0645

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

1. SINCE THE RECEIPT OF REF A THERE HAS BEEN A SUCCESSION OF CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS ABOUT THE SUCCESSION TO UTILITY.

2. I WISH TO STATE AT THE OUTSET THAT I AGREE WITH YOUR REF A PARAGRAPH 2, I.E. IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESENT SENSITIVE POLITICAL SITUATION HERE IT WOULD BE MOST UNFORTUNATE IF WE MADE ANY PREFERENCE KNOWN. ACTUALLY I BELIEVE THAT THIS MIGHT EVEN BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE. SINCE IDEN 3 OF REF A SEEMS TO BE ALMOST AS ~~TOUCHY~~ *TOUCHY* IN THIS RESPECT AS []

3. NOW AS TO THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS- ON 14 SEPTEMBER THE CHIEF OF THE LOCAL UPI BUREAU CALLED [] TO ASK WHETHER UTILITY SPOKE ENGLISH SINCE HE WAS GOING TO WRITE AN ARTICLE ABOUT CATUSK. [] ANSWERED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND ASKED WHAT THE OCCASION OF THE ARTICLE WAS. WELLINGTON LONG, THE UPI CHIEF, SAID THAT THEY HAD JUST BEEN INFORMED BY SOMEONE IN THE CHANCELLORY THAT IDEN 1 OF REF A HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY APPOINTED AS THE SUCCESSOR TO UTILITY. [] EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE AND ASKED WHETHER LONG WOULD BE WILLING TO TELL HER WHO EXACTLY HIS SOURCE WAS. THIS RESULTED IN HEMMING

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AND HAWING AND LONG FINALLY PROMISED TO ASK SOMEONE IN HIS OFFICE WHO THE SOURCE HAD BEEN SINCE HE CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE HAD THE CONVERSATION PERSONALLY. THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT TRUE BUT THERE WAS NO WAY OF FORCING THE ISSUE.

4. ON SEPTEMBER 18 BOTH THE STARS AND STRIPES AND DIE WELT HAD UPI DISPATCHES STATING EXACTLY WHAT LONG HAD TOLD [REDACTED], NAMELY THAT IDEN 1 HAD BEEN OFFICIALLY APPOINTED. ALSO ON 18 SEPTEMBER IN THE GENERAL ANZEIGER OF BONN THERE WAS A DPA DISPATCH WHICH SAID THAT "NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE AS TO WHO THE SUCCESSOR TO UTILITY WILL BE. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN MADE THIS STATEMENT WITH REFERENCE TO CERTAIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ACCORDING TO WHICH IDEN3 HAD ALREADY MADE A DECISION IN FAVOR OF IDEN 1." AFTER SEVERAL ATTEMPTS [REDACTED] WAS FINALLY ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH LONG AND POINTED OUT THE VARIOUS CONFLICTING VERSIONS OF HIS STORY, NONE OF WHICH HE HAD YET SEEN. IN ANSWER TO THE REPEATED QUESTION AS TO WHO HIS SOURCE HAD BEEN HE FINALLY CAME THROUGH AND SAID IT HAD BEEN DR. HORST OSTERHELD WHO IS THE HEAD OF ABTEILUNG I OF THE CHANCELLORY. LONG THEN CONTINUED TO SAY THAT HE WAS SURE THAT HIS VERSION WAS CORRECT. HE SUPPORTED THIS BY TELLING [REDACTED] OF A LUNCHEON HE AND SEVERAL OTHER AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS HAD HAD WITH STATE SECRETARY CARSTENS ON 14 SEPTEMBER /AFTER HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH [REDACTED]// DURING WHICH, IN ORDER TO GET A DEFINITE ANSWER HE HAD ASKED CARSTENS WHETHER IDEN 1 WOULD HAVE TO GO ON INACTIVE DUTY WHEN HE TOOK OVER FROM UTILITY. ACCORDING TO LONG CARSTENS DID NOT WINK AN EYE AND REPLIED THAT WHEN IDEN 1

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TOOK OVER HE WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THE SERVICE AND COME A CIVIL SERVANT SINCE THERE WAS NO OTHER SLOT ON THE T/O FOR THE MAN HOLDING UTILITY'S JOB. LONG CONCLUDES FROM THE FACT THAT THE ORIGINAL SOURCE WAS OSTERHELD AND THAT CARSTENS WAS NOT AT ALL SURPRISED WHEN HE ASKED HIS QUESTION THAT THE DENIAL WAS ISSUED EITHER BY A SUBORDINATE WHO WAS NOT FULLY INFORMED OR THAT THE DENIAL WAS ISSUED BECUASE IDEN 3 WAS ANNOYED THAT THE CAT HAD PREMATURELY BEEN LET OUT OF THE BAG.

5. IN THIS LAST TELEPHONE CONVERSATION LONG ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD ASKED CARSTENS WHETHER AND WHEN HE WAS GOING TO MOVE OVER TO THE CHANCELLORY AS STATE SECRETARY /THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS TO THIS EFFECT RECENTLY/. CARSTENS REPLIED THAT THIS MOVE WAS NOT YET DEFINITE BUT IF IT DID TAKE PLACE IT WOULD NOT BE BEFORE THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER, THE DATE ON WHICH IT IS ASSUMED NOW THAT MINISTER SCHROEDER WILL BE BACK ON THE JOB. CARSTENS ADDED THAT THE BIG DEFENSE DEBATE IN THE BUNDESTAG WAS ALSO GOING TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL SCHROEDER RETURNED. IF THAT RETURN SHOULD BE DELAYED BEYOND THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE TO DEFER THE DEBATE ANY LONGER.

6. AT LUNCH WITH C 1 ON 19 SEPTEMBER UTILITY TOLD C 1 THAT DECISION STILL NOT FINAL ALTHOUGH HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE MADE REASONABLY SOON AS INDICATED BY UPI DISPATCH. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE PRESS STORIES ON HIS SUCCESSOR, ESPECIALLY A RECENT SPIEGEL STORY, WERE HOSTILE IN INTENT AND MEANT TO TORPEDO HIS FAVORITE AS SUCCESSOR. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE DECISION HAD NOW BEEN DELAYED LONG ENOUGH THAT HE BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE INADEQUATE OVERLAP TIME BETWEEN NOW AND NEXT SPRING.

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HENCE HE SAID HE WOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE ON ACTIVE
DUTY /PROBABLY AS AN ADVISOR/ FOR ONE YEAR OR EVEN TWO
AFTER NEXT SPRING. HE HAD MENTIONED HIS STAYING ON A
YEAR OR TWO IN A TALK A FEW DAYS EARLIER WITH HQS OFFICER
[BUT WAS NOT CLEAR THAT HIS JOB WOULD
NEVERTHELESS BE PASSED ON.

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